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DD/A Registry

6 January 1977

STATINTL

MEMORANDUM FOR

FROM

John F. Blake

Deputy Director for Administration

SUBJECT

Reimbursement for Shipment of

Household Effects

- 1. This memorandum contains additional information beyond that given you in my memorandum of 5 January 1977 concerning payment for the movement of household effects.
- 2. Our contact in the Civil Service Commission has ascertained that the General Services Administration was the appropriate organization to respond to the query. A representative of the General Services Administration has contacted us and has stated that they have previously raised the issue with the General Accounting Office and that organization has given oral opinions to the effect that there is no authorization to pay for the shipment of household effects of Presidential Appointees. We were further informed that the General Services Administration has sensed the reluctance on the part of the General Accounting Office to put such an opinion in writing and the General Services Administration has not forced the issue.
- 3. I am sorry that this memorandum does not convey a more favorable message. There does remain to us another option to pursue the issue. We could request a formal opinion from the General Accounting Office as to whether we could legally reimburse for the expenses involved. I will be happy to exercise this option if you so desire.

/s/ John F. Blake

John F: Blake

STATINTL

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5 January 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: Deputy Director for Administration

FROM: F. W. M. Janney

STATINTL

Director of Personnel

SUBJECT: Payment/Non-Payment of EOD and Travel

Expenses for Presidential Appointees

1. This is a follow-up to my memorandum of this date concerning payment/non-payment of EOD and travel expenses for Presidential appointees. In that memorandum I advised you that we would provide you with further information as soon as we received a call from our Civil Service Commission contact.

2. The Commission contact referred us to the General Services Administration, which he said was more concerned with Government travel than was the CSC.

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- Chief, Staff Personnel Division, made contact with an appropriate officer at GSA, who advised him that their philosophy is that the President asks individuals to take senior positions in the Government and if they do not feel that they can afford the expense of accepting such a position, the President passes onto another individual who can meet the requirements or sacrifices incident to such an appointment. After saying this, the GSA contact stated that they have raised the issue in the past with the Government Accounting Office and that organization has given oral opinions to the effect that there is no authorization to pay for the travel or shipment of household effects of Presidential appointees. GSA has sensed a reluctance on the part of GAO to put such an opinion in writing, and GSA is apparently satisfied to let the issue rest.
- 3. In summary, we find that payment of travel and EOD expenses of Presidential appointees has apparently not been the practice in the past, that it would of questionable legality, and that the only way to further refine the question would be for this Agency to ask GAO to give a formal ruling.

F. W. M. Janney

STATINTL

